

Remarks

Applicant has submitted a Petition to Revive, a Request for Continued Examination and the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e). Accordingly, entry of the above amendment and reconsideration of this Application are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 13-15, 17-21, 23-25, and 27-33 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 11, and 21 being the independent claims. Claims 2, 6, 12, 16, 22, and 26 are sought to be canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Objection to the Abstract

The Examiner objected to the abstract of the disclosure because it allegedly did not reflect the inventive feature of the claimed invention to distinguish over the prior art. The abstract of the disclosure has been amended. According, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the abstract of the disclosure be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 21, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,222,225 to Groves ("Groves"). Based on the foregoing amendments, claims 2, 12, and 22 have been canceled, and

therefore the Examiner's rejection of these claims is rendered moot. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection with respect to claims 1, 11, and 21.

Claim 1 has been amended to include all the features of claim 6. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to recite an apparatus including:

- a shift post processor;
- a shifter to shift an operand according to an offset parameter, generating a shifted operand; and
- a register coupled to the shift post processor capable of transferring a shift carry operand stored in the register to the shift post processor, and coupled to the shifter to store the shifted operand after any transfer of the shift carry operand;
- wherein the shift post processor is coupled to the shifter and the register to process the shifted operand to generate an output based on at least a control signal and a mask field; and
- wherein the shift post processor comprises
 - a decoder to decode the offset parameter into the mask field, the mask field having a plurality of mask bits, each of the mask bits corresponding to a bit position of the shifted operand, and
 - at least one bit formatter coupled to the decoder to format the shifted operand using the control signal and the mask field, the at least one bit formatter comprising (i) a gating circuit to gate the control signal using the mask bit, and (ii) a selector circuit coupled to the gating circuit to select one of a bit at the bit position of the shifted operand, the shift carry operand, and a most significant bit of the operand based on the gated control signal.

Groves does not teach or suggest each and every feature of claim 1. For example, Groves does not teach or suggest the following claim feature recited in claim 1:

- (i) a gating circuit to gate the control signal using the mask bit, and
- (ii) a selector circuit coupled to the gating circuit to select one of a bit at the bit position of the shifted operand, the shift carry operand, and a most significant bit of the operand based on the gated control signal.

The Examiner has not pointed to, and Applicant has not found, any teaching in Groves corresponding to this claim feature. Furthermore, this claim feature is incorporated from claim 6 and the Examiner had previously indicated that claim 6 would be allowable over

Groves if rewritten in independent form. (*See* the Office Action dated November 19, 2004 at p. 3.)

Because Groves does not teach or suggest each and every feature of claim 1, this claim is patentable over Groves. Independent claims 11 and 21 have been amended to recite similar claim features to independent claim 1. Accordingly, independent claims 11 and 21 are patentable over Groves for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1, in addition to their own respective features. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 11, and 21 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected claims 3-10, 31, 13-20, 32, 23-30, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Groves in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,149,263 to Prioste ("Prioste"). Based on the foregoing amendments, claims 6, 16, and 26 have been canceled, and therefore the Examiner's rejection of these claims is rendered moot. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection with respect to claims 3-5, 7-10, 31, 13-15, 17-20, 32, 23-25, 27-30, and 33.

As set forth above, Groves does not teach or suggest each and every feature of independent claim 1. Prioste does not remedy the deficiency of Groves with respect to this claim. For example, Prioste does not teach or suggest the following claim feature recited in claim 1:

- (i) a gating circuit to gate the control signal using the mask bit, and
- (ii) a selector circuit coupled to the gating circuit to select one of a bit at the bit position of the shifted operand, the shift carry operand, and a most significant bit of the operand based on the gated control signal.

The Examiner has not pointed to, and Applicant has not found, any teaching in Prioste corresponding to this claim feature.

Because Groves and Prioste, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every feature of claim 1, this claim is patentable over Groves and Prioste. Claims 3-5, 7-10, and 31 dependent, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1. Thus, claims 3-5, 7-10, and 31 are patentable over Groves and Prioste for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1, in addition to their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of claims 3-5, 7-10, and 31 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Because independent claim 11 has been amended to recite similar claim features to independent claim 1, independent claim 11 is patentable over Groves and Prioste for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1. Claims 13-15, 17-20, and 32 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 11. Thus, claims 13-15, 17-20, and 32 are patentable over Groves and Prioste for at least the same reasons as independent claim 11, in addition to their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of claims 13-15, 17-20, and 32 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Because independent claim 21 has been amended to recite similar claim features to independent claim 1, independent claim 21 is patentable over Groves and Prioste for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1. Claims 23-25, 27-30, and 33 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 21. Thus, claims 23-25, 27-30, and 33 are patentable over Groves and Prioste for at least the same reasons as independent claim 21, in addition to their own respective features. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of claims 23-25, 27-30, and 33 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: October 11, 2006

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